



ISSUE  
#10

# ALIENS™

## DEFIANCE

BRIAN WOOD  
STEPHEN THOMPSON  
DAN JACKSON





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## DEFIANCE

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WHEN THE *EUROPA* WAS BOARDED BY PIRATES, Zula, Hollis, and Davis were forced to use the Alien queen they were carrying as a means of defense. Unfortunately, the ship sustained major damage, and now they have no choice but to limp back to Earth, where Weyland-Yutani is waiting for them.

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LETTERING  
**NATE PIEKOS  
OF BLAMBOT®**

COVER  
**STEPHANIE  
HANS**

SPECIAL THANKS TO **JOSH IZZO** AND **NICOLE SPIEGEL** AT TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX.

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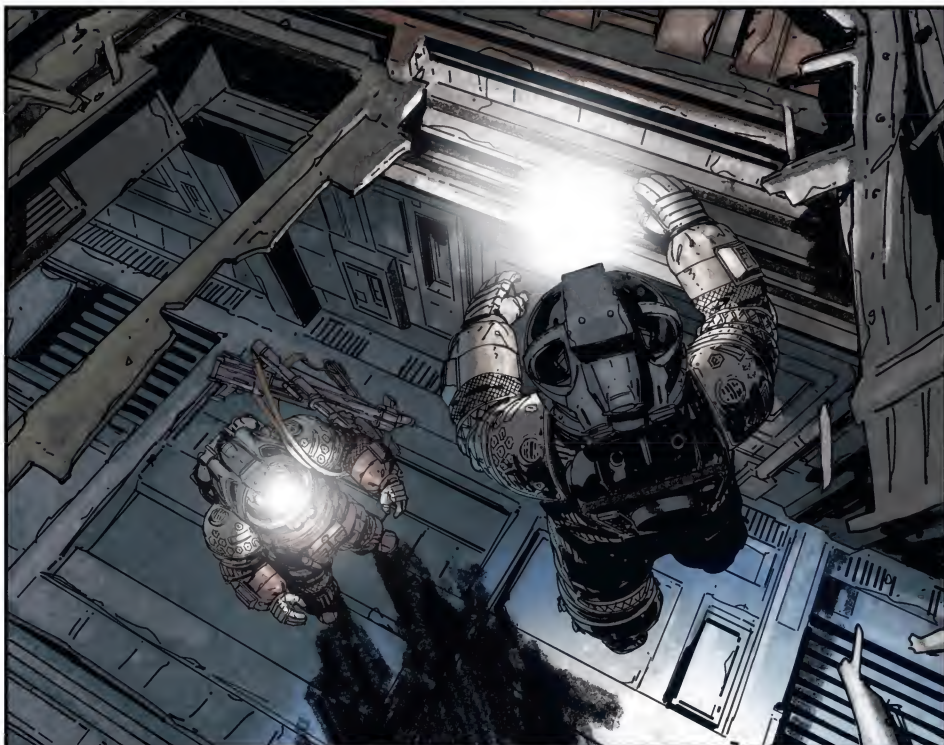
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**DARK HORSE COMICS AND 20th CENTURY FOX PRESENT**

**SCRIPT BRIAN WOOD**

**ART STEPHEN THOMPSON**

**COLORS DAN JACKSON**

**LETTERING NATE PIEKOS OF BLAMBOT®**

**A L I E N S<sup>™</sup>**  
**D E F I A N C E**

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THE EUROPA IS  
A TOTAL LOSS.

BEFORE, **MAYBE**,  
IT COULD HAVE  
BEEN REPAIRED...

...NOW IT'S FLYING  
SCRAP METAL. AND  
THAT'S BEING GENEROUS.

WE HAVE A FUEL-  
CELL RUPTURE. I DON'T  
WANT EITHER OF YOU  
GOING BELOW DECK  
FIVE.

A  
RUPTURE...  
A **RADIATION**  
LEAK?

THE LATERAL  
LINE SHIELDING  
WILL PROTECT  
THE BRIDGE.

THE ONLY PLACE ON THE SHIP WHERE  
WE HAVE LIFE SUPPORT AND GRAVITY.

WE'LL STILL  
MAKE IT BACK  
TO EARTH,  
RIGHT?

YOU  
COMMITTED  
US TO THAT  
EVENTUALITY,  
YES.

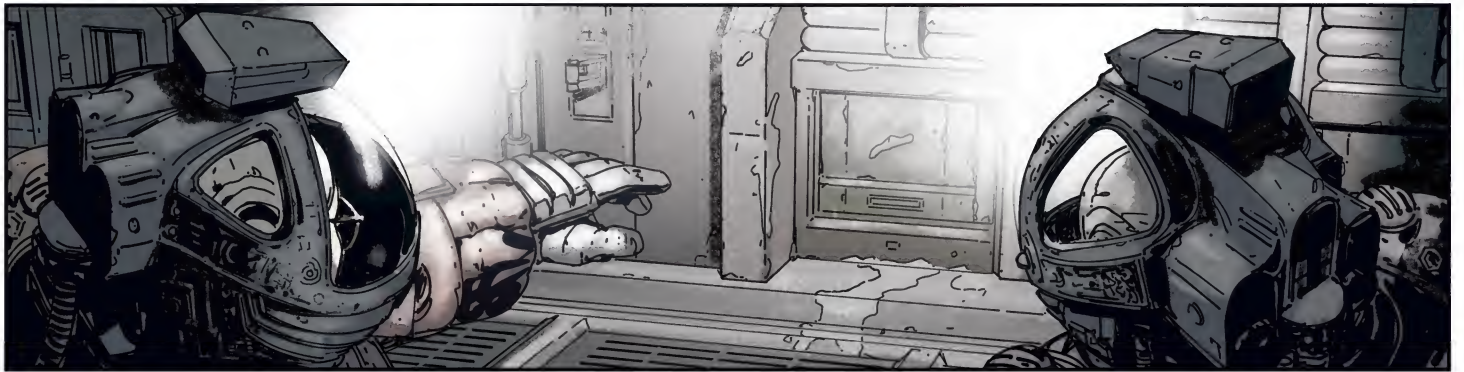
DAVIS IS PISSED AT  
ME. YOU MIGHT  
NOT BE ABLE TO  
TELL, BUT I CAN.

TELL  
ME WHAT THE  
OTHER OPTION  
WAS.

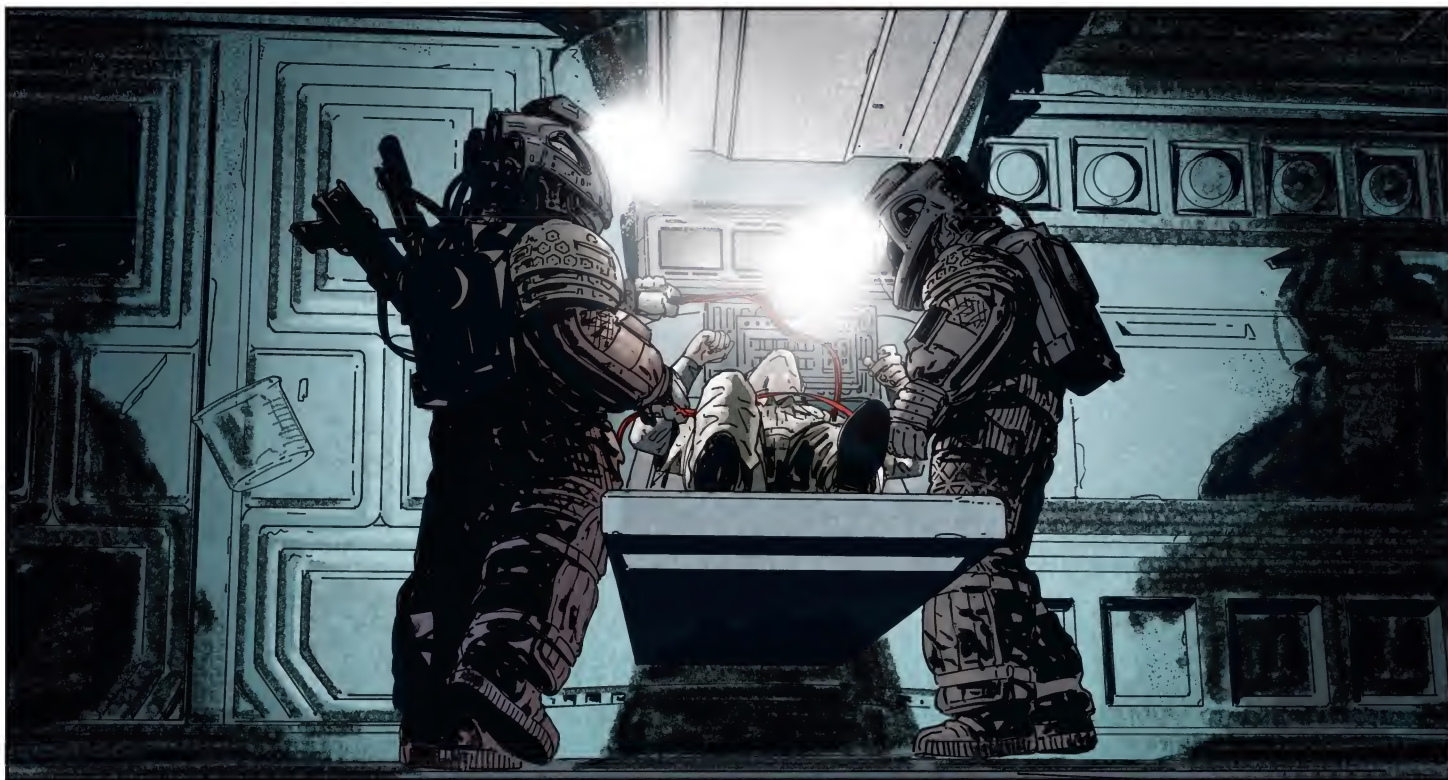
I WANT TO DROP  
THIS TOUGH-GIRL  
DEFENSIVE STANCE,  
BUT I CAN'T.

FEELINGS  
SUCK.

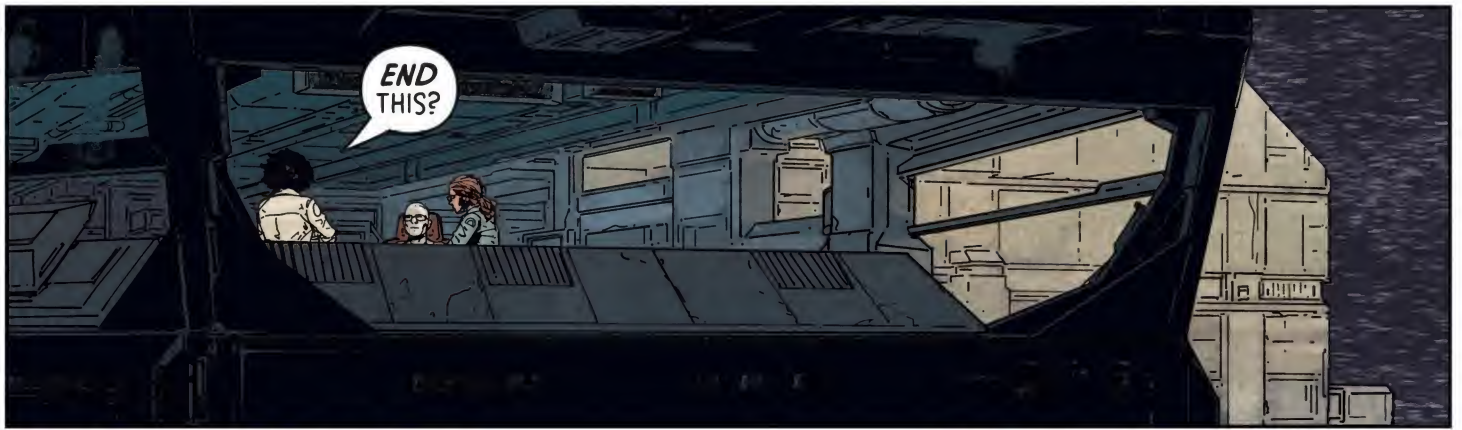




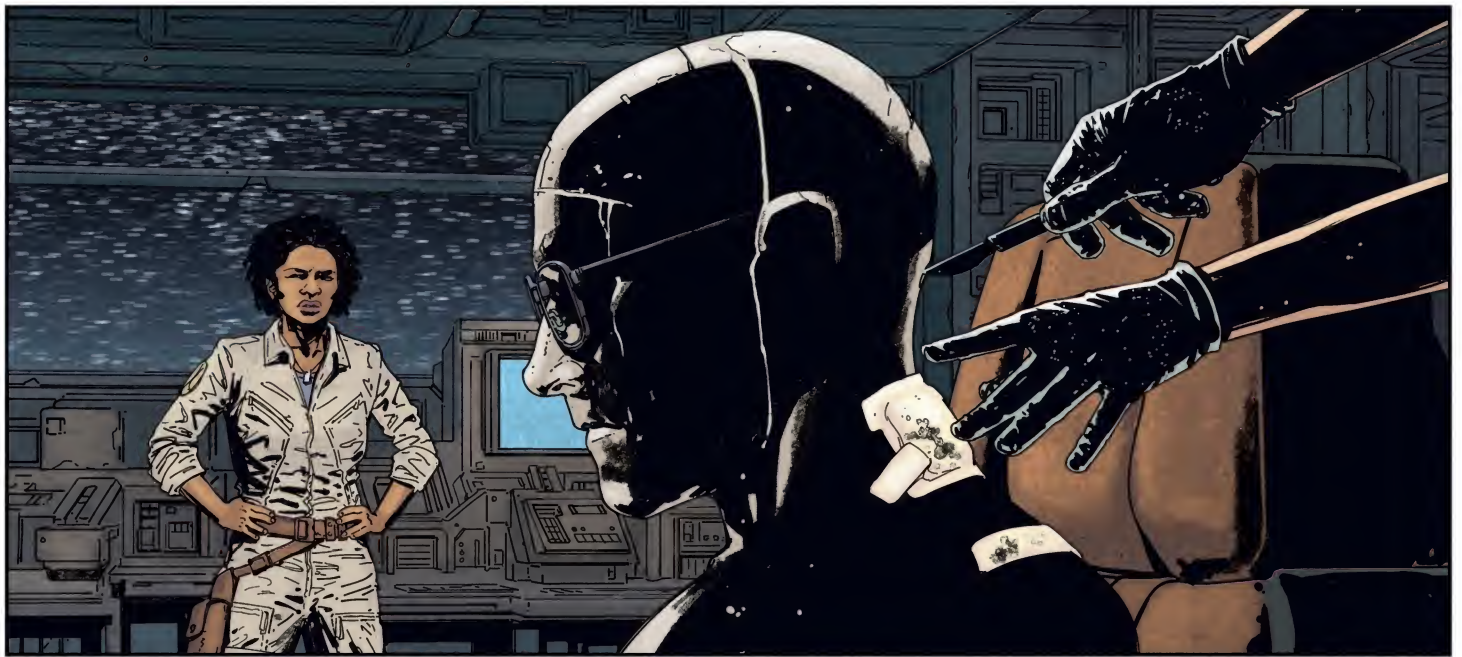












I CAN PROTECT YOU, DAVIS.

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER, LIKE YOU SAID. DR. YANG IS GUARANTEEING MY SAFE RETURN AND IMMUNITY FROM PROSECUTION...

...IT'LL BE UNDERSTOOD THOSE PROTECTIONS EXTEND TO YOU TWO.

YEAH, I DUNNO, ZULA. I DON'T KNOW DR. YANG, AND SHE SURE DOESN'T KNOW ME. AND FORGIVE ME FOR SAYING THIS, DAVIS, BUT YOU AREN'T EVEN A PERSON.

YOU ARE FORGIVEN. ALTHOUGH...

...THE MODIFICATIONS I'VE MADE TO MY PROGRAMMING OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS PROMPT ME TO BEG TO DIFFER. I *FEEL HUMAN*.

SO WEYLAND-YUTANI AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM MAY CONSIDER ME HARDWARE, BUT I DO NOT.

I DO NOT WISH TO DIE.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DIE, DAVIS!

I SWEAR TO GOD, I WILL PROTECT YOU!

YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE TO RETURN TO EARTH, AND I ACCEPT THAT. THE SHIP IS DYING. YOUR SPINE NEEDS ATTENTION. WE CAN NO LONGER PROSECUTE OUR MISSION, AND EARTH WILL NOT GIVE UP TRYING TO RETRIEVE US.

SO I HAVE A PLAN.





APPROACHING  
SHIP EUROPA.

THIS  
IS LUNA AIR  
DEFENSE.



REDUCE SPEED  
IMMEDIATELY--YOU ARE  
REQUIRED TO SUBMIT  
TO LUNA CONTROL FOR  
INSPECTION AND  
BOARDING.

EUROPA,  
THIS IS LUNA.  
RESPOND.



EUROPA,  
YOU RISK HOSTILE  
ACTION. RESPOND  
IMMEDIATELY.

LUNA CONTROL,  
THIS IS PRIVATE ZULA  
HENDRICKS, COLONIAL  
MARINES.



BE ADVISED, WE WON'T  
SLOW DOWN BECAUSE WE  
CAN'T. OUR ENGINE PLANT IS  
DAMAGED, SO WE'RE GOING  
TO HAVE TO BLOW RIGHT  
PAST YOU AND EXECUTE  
BRAKING MANEUVERS IN  
EARTH ORBIT.

EUROPA--

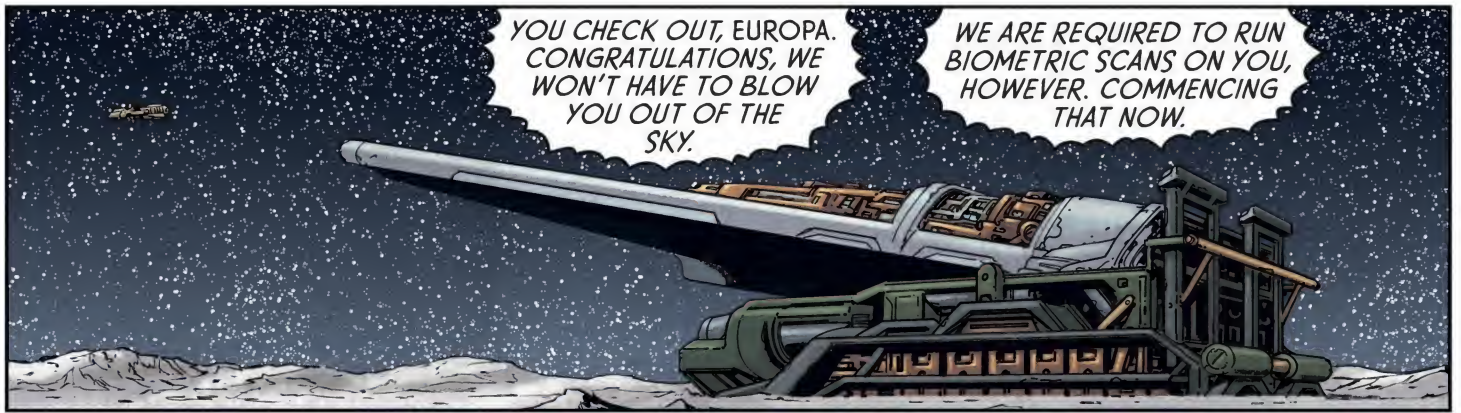
STAND  
BY FOR CODE  
AUTHORIZATION  
TRANSMISSION.



...ZULA...

WAIT  
FOR IT.



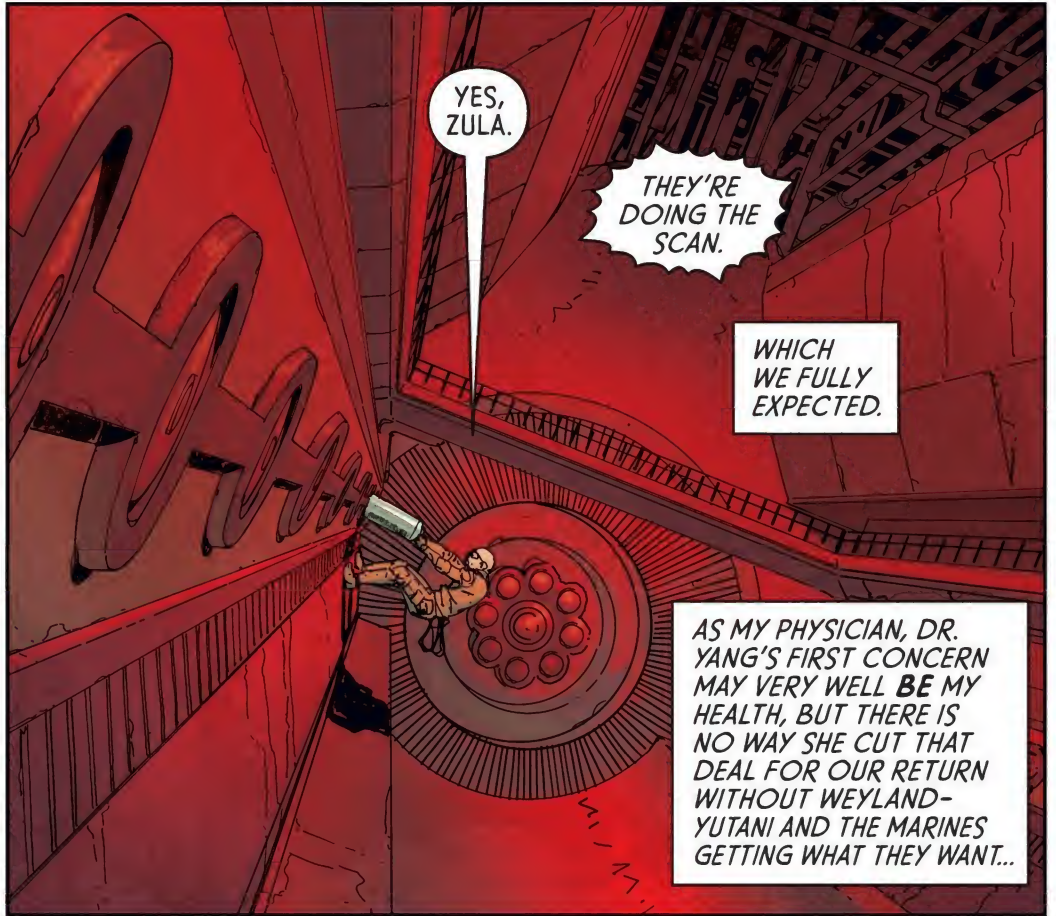


YOU CHECK OUT, EUROPA. CONGRATULATIONS, WE WON'T HAVE TO BLOW YOU OUT OF THE SKY.

WE ARE REQUIRED TO RUN BIOMETRIC SCANS ON YOU, HOWEVER. COMMENCING THAT NOW.



DAVIS?



YES, ZULA.

THEY'RE DOING THE SCAN.

WHICH WE FULLY EXPECTED.

AS MY PHYSICIAN, DR. YANG'S FIRST CONCERN MAY VERY WELL **BE** MY HEALTH, BUT THERE IS NO WAY SHE CUT THAT DEAL FOR OUR RETURN WITHOUT WEYLAND-YUTANI AND THE MARINES GETTING WHAT THEY WANT...

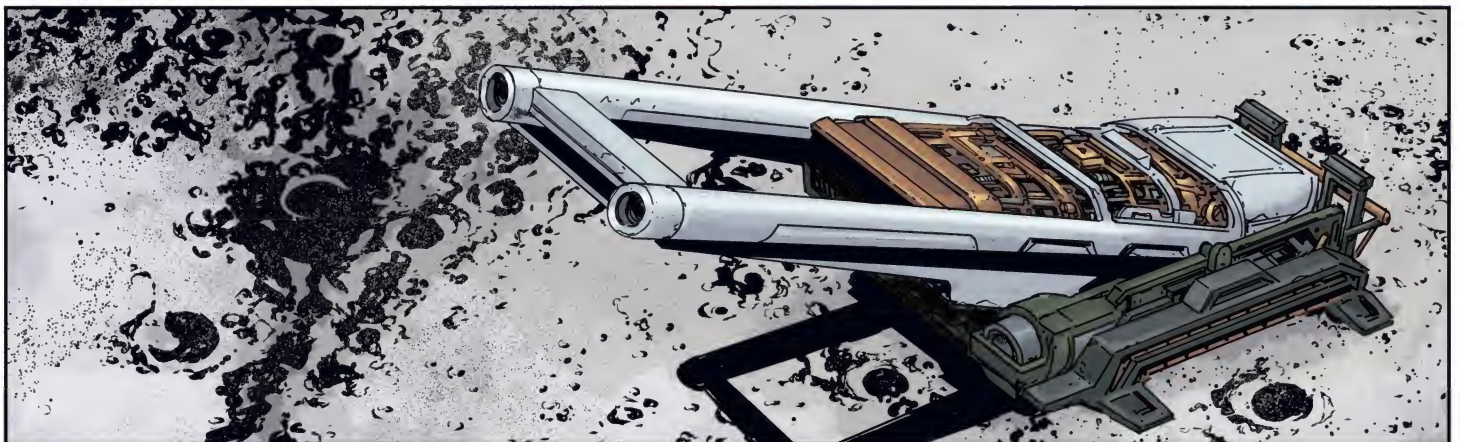


...THE PRECIOUS SAMPLE.

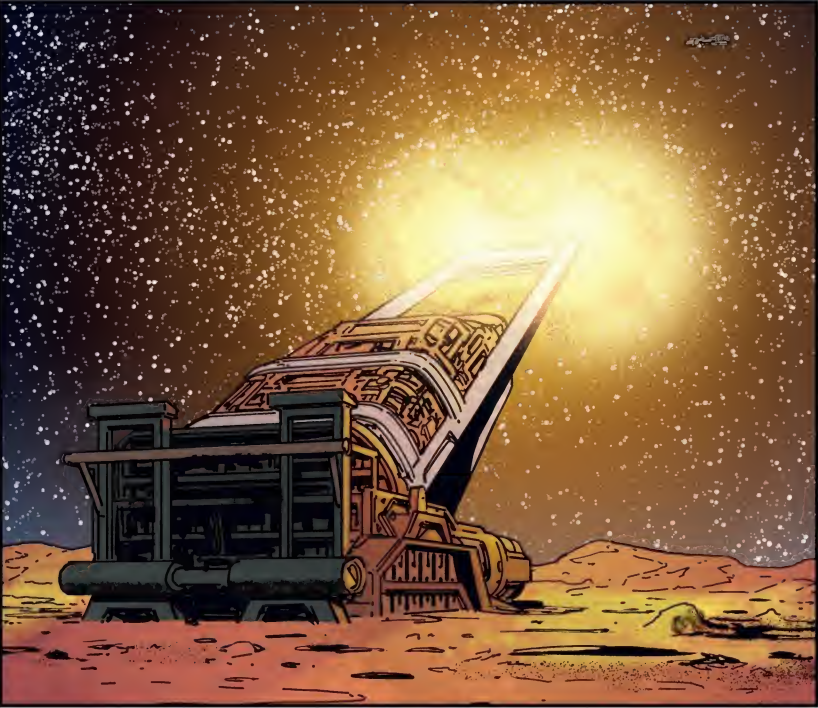
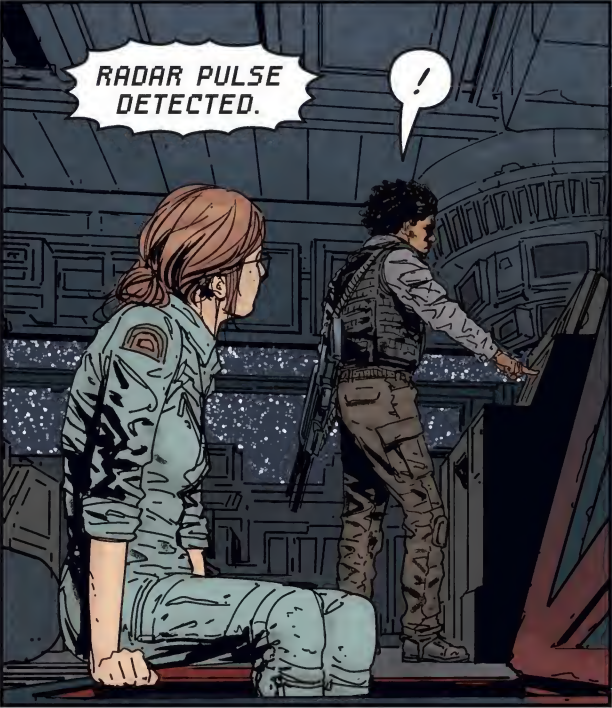
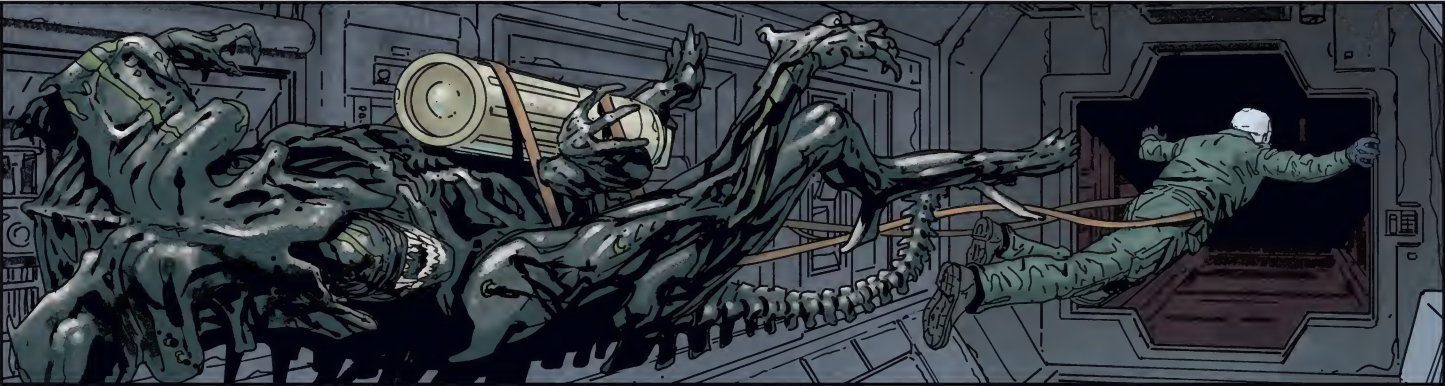
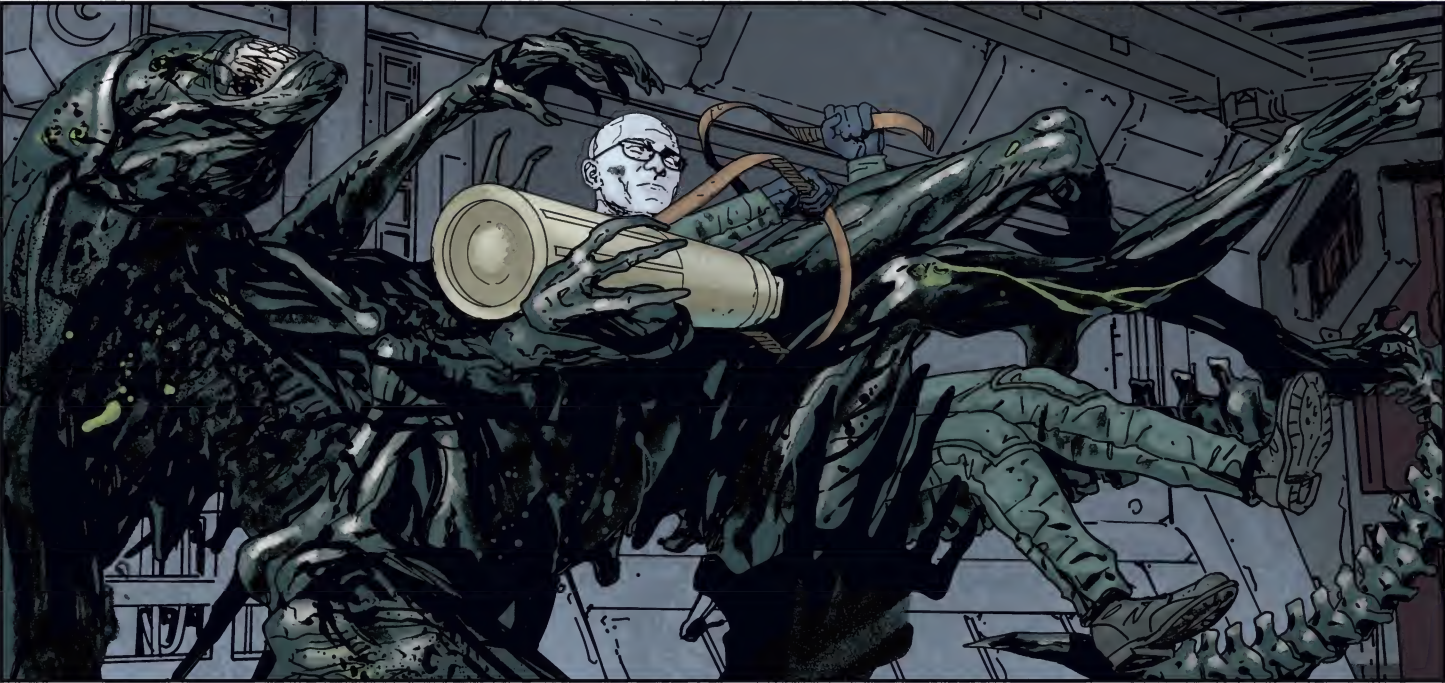


WITHOUT A BIG FAT "UNKNOWN ALIEN CONTAGION" MESSAGE POPPING UP ON THEIR SCREENS RIGHT NOW, WE'D BE DEAD.

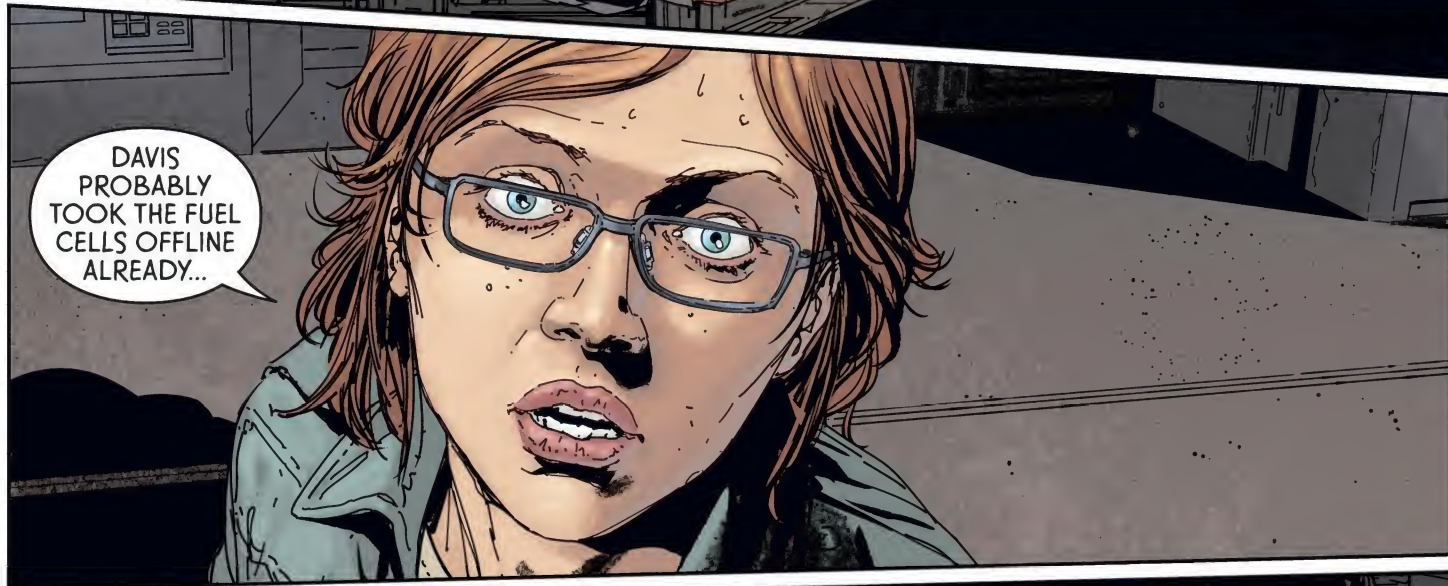




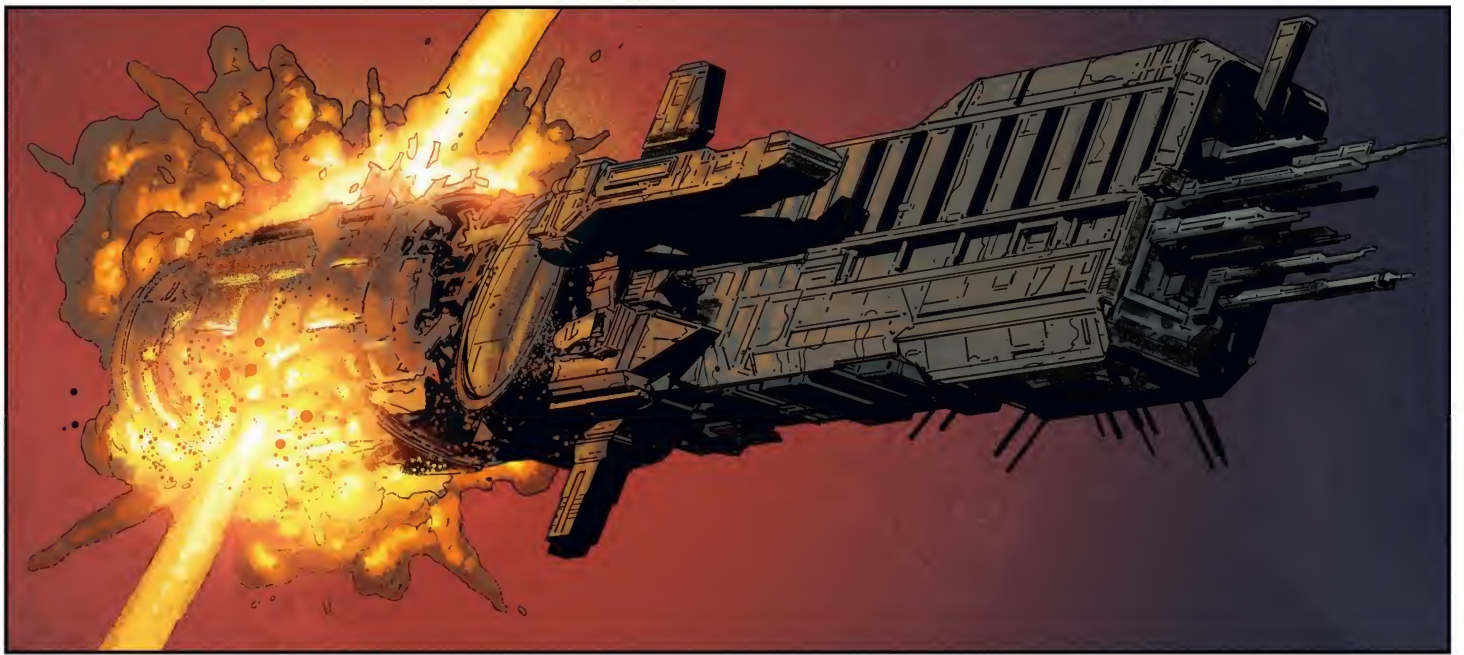








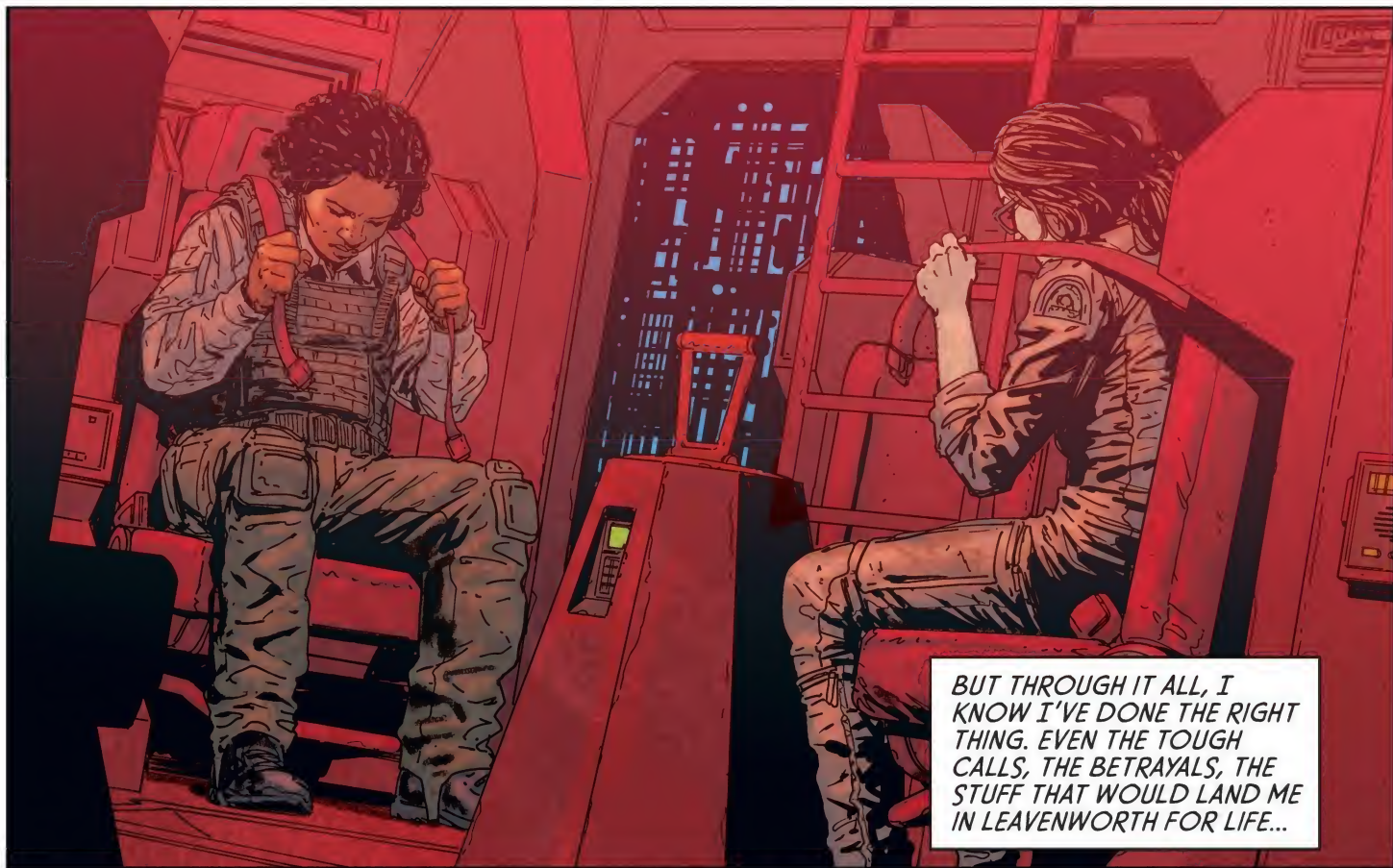




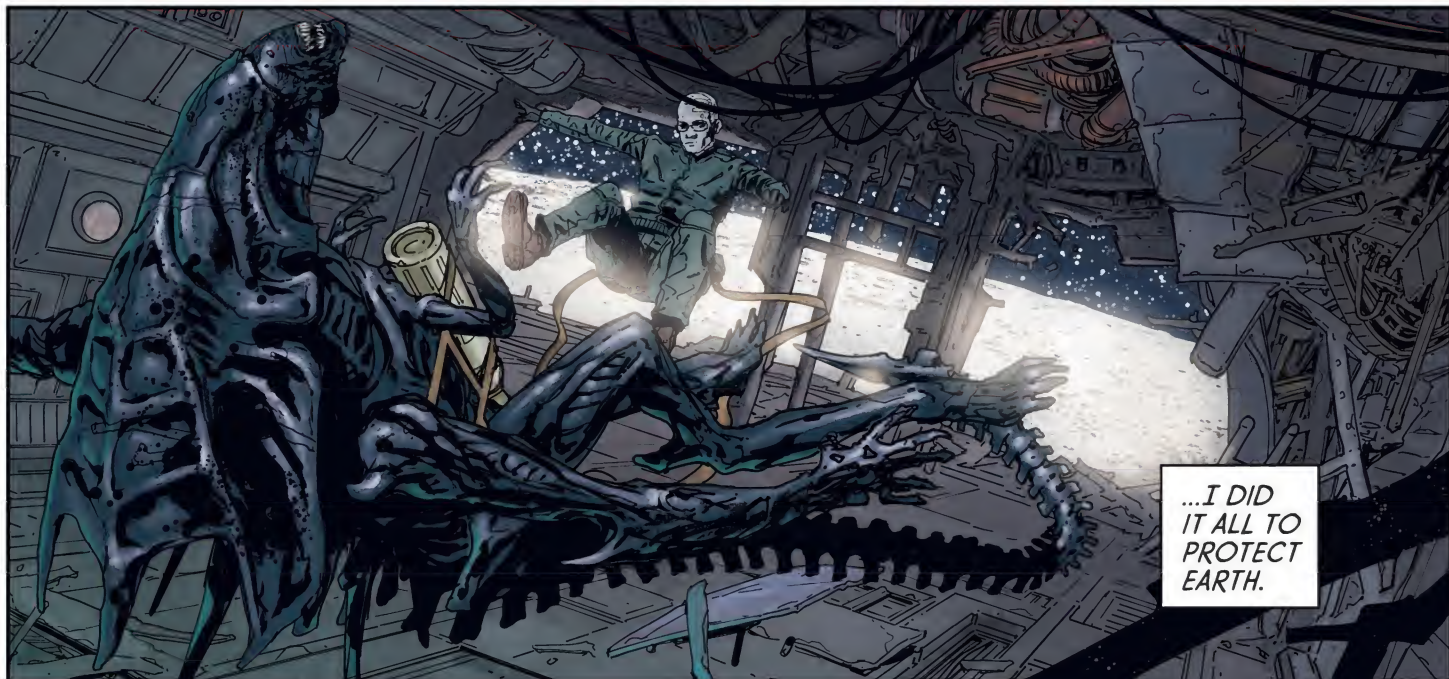




BUT IT'S HARD  
NOT TO FEEL LIKE  
THE DECK'S BEEN  
STACKED AGAINST  
ME SINCE THE JUMP.



BUT THROUGH IT ALL, I  
KNOW I'VE DONE THE RIGHT  
THING. EVEN THE TOUGH  
CALLS, THE BETRAYALS, THE  
STUFF THAT WOULD LAND ME  
IN LEAVENWORTH FOR LIFE...

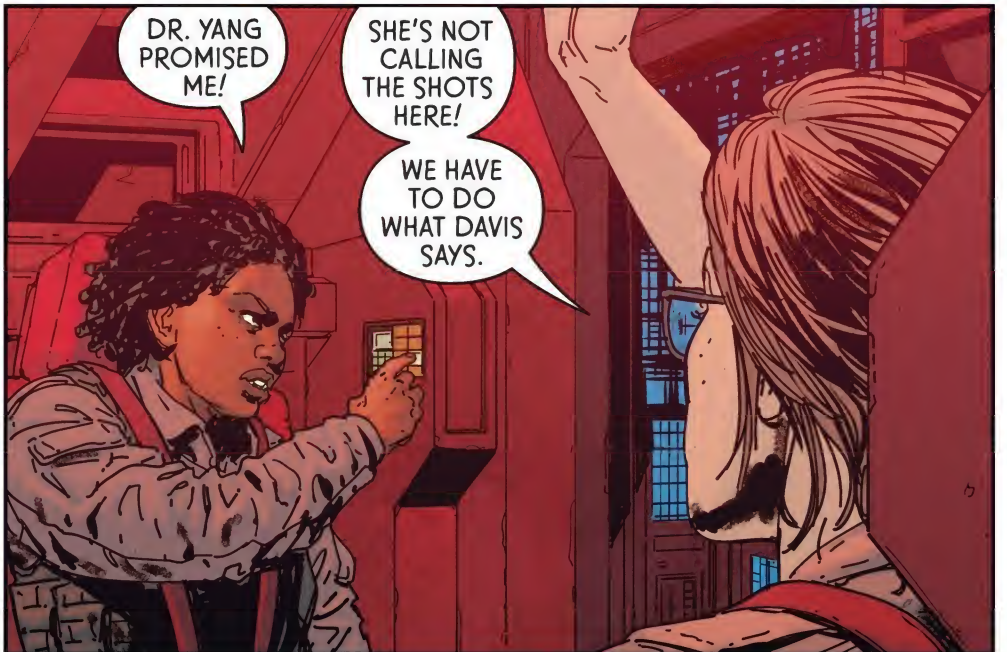


...I DID  
IT ALL TO  
PROTECT  
EARTH.





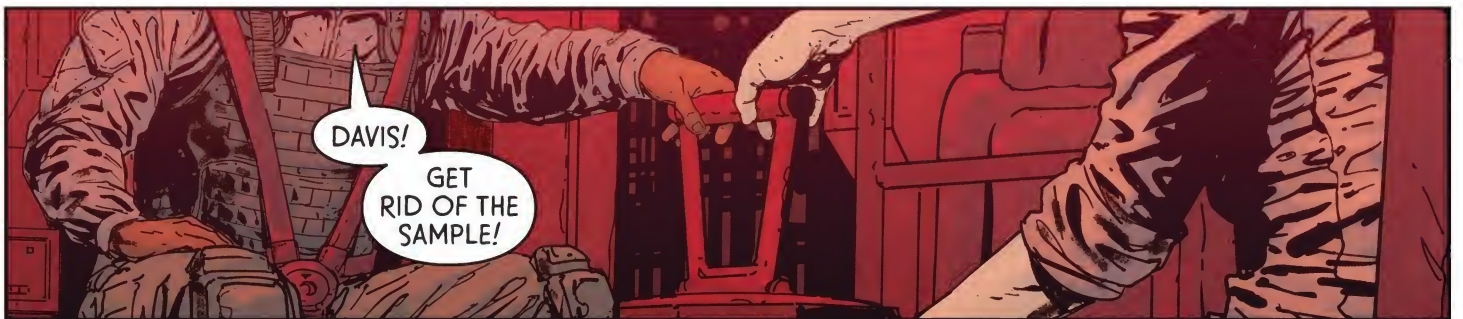
ZULA, GET  
CLEAR!



DR. YANG  
PROMISED  
ME!

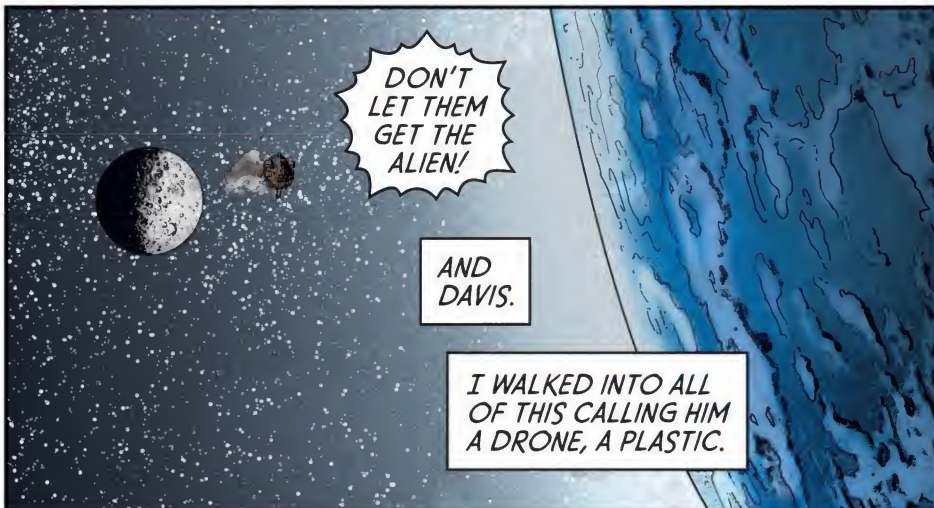
SHE'S NOT  
CALLING  
THE SHOTS  
HERE!

WE HAVE  
TO DO  
WHAT DAVIS  
SAYS.



DAVIS!

GET  
RID OF THE  
SAMPLE!



DON'T  
LET THEM  
GET THE  
ALIEN!

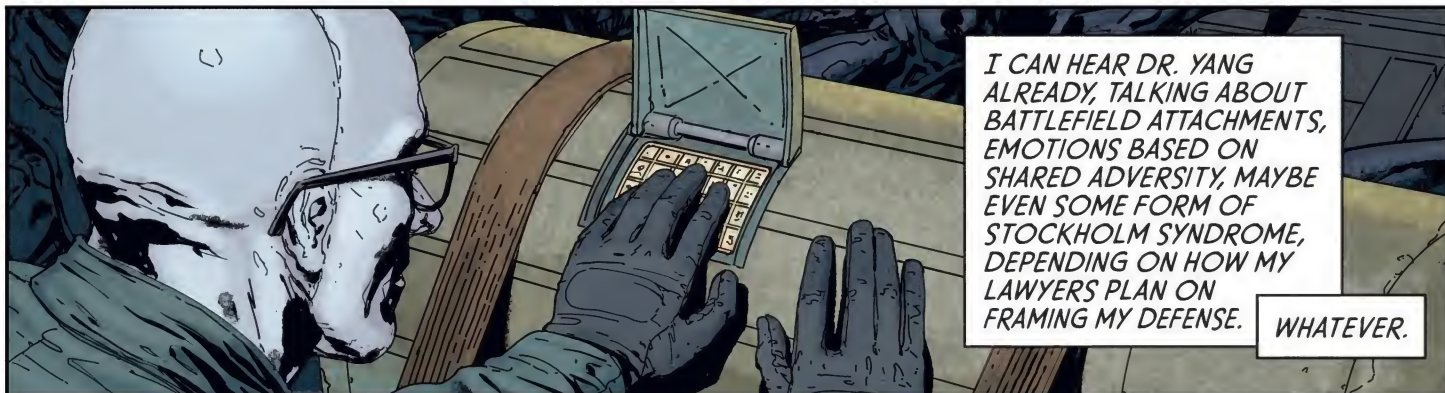
AND  
DAVIS.

I WALKED INTO ALL  
OF THIS CALLING HIM  
A DRONE, A PLASTIC.



NOW  
I LOVE  
THE  
GUY.





I CAN HEAR DR. YANG ALREADY, TALKING ABOUT BATTLEFIELD ATTACHMENTS, EMOTIONS BASED ON SHARED ADVERSITY, MAYBE EVEN SOME FORM OF STOCKHOLM SYNDROME, DEPENDING ON HOW MY LAWYERS PLAN ON FRAMING MY DEFENSE.

WHATEVER.



ALL DAVIS HAS DONE IS STRIVE TO BETTER HIMSELF. HE LITERALLY WRITES HIS WAY TO BEING HUMAN...



...WHILE HIS PLASTIC BODY KEEPS FAILING HIM.

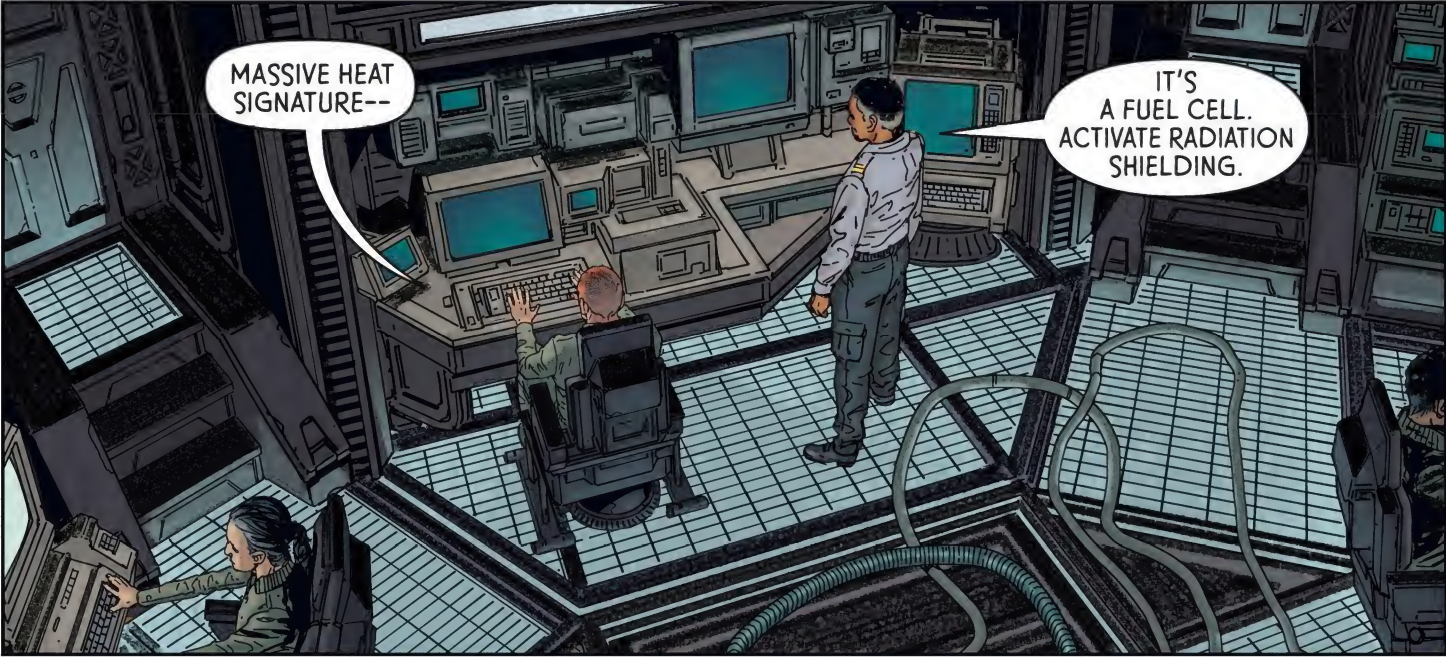


YOU KNOW, I CAN RELATE.



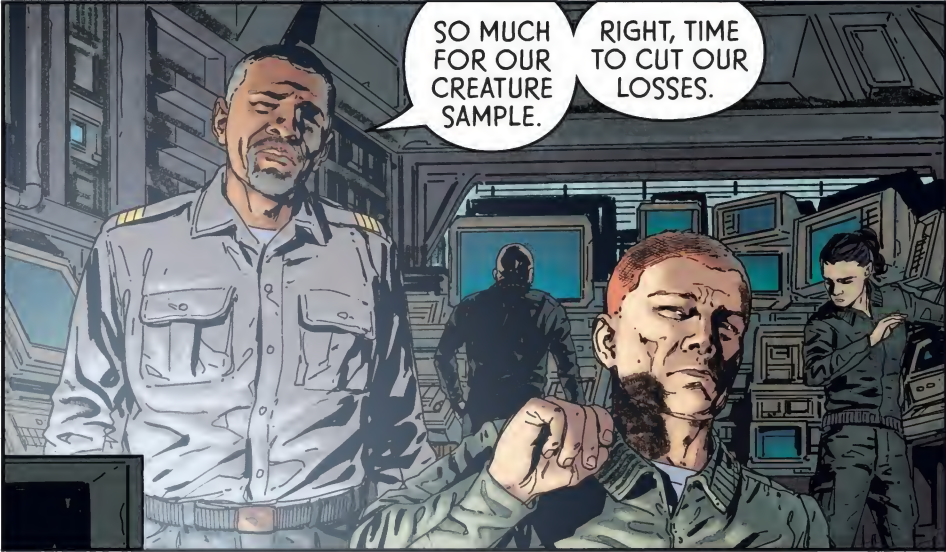
"WHAT IS THAT?"





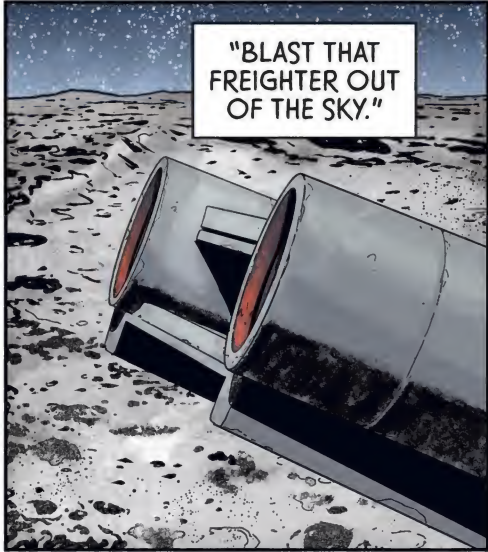
MASSIVE HEAT  
SIGNATURE--

IT'S  
A FUEL CELL.  
ACTIVATE RADIATION  
SHIELDING.



SO MUCH  
FOR OUR  
CREATURE  
SAMPLE.

RIGHT, TIME  
TO CUT OUR  
LOSSES.

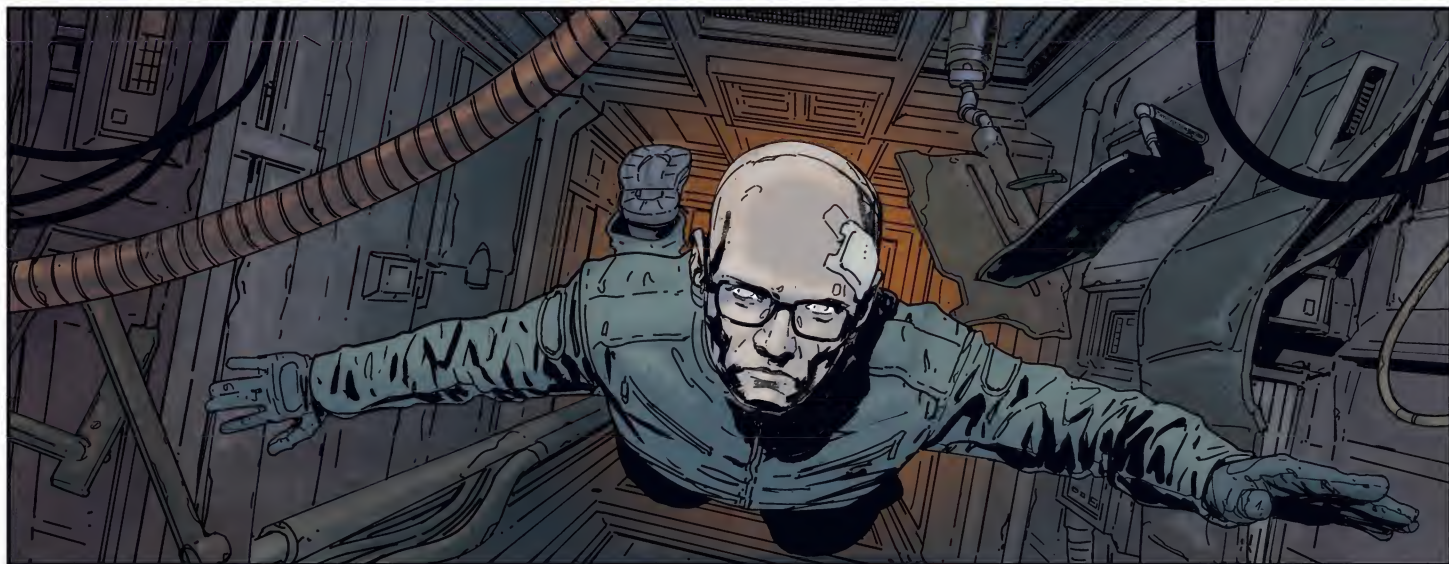
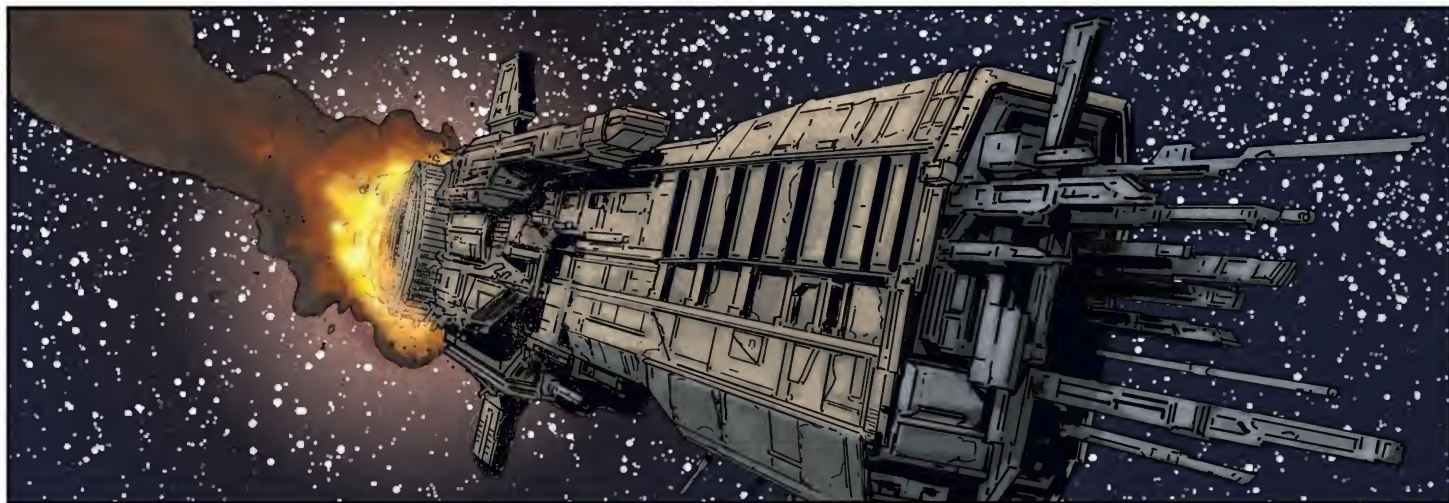
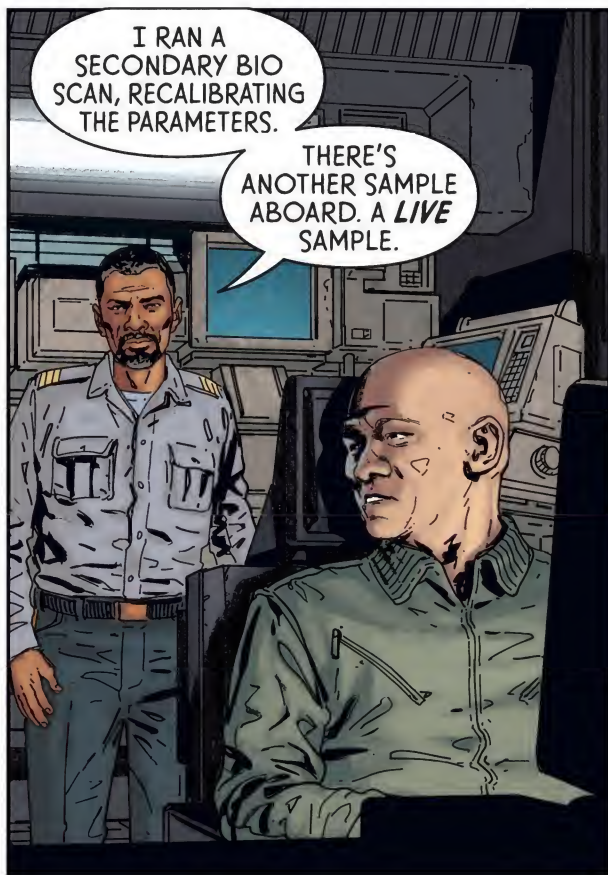


"BLAST THAT  
FREIGHTER OUT  
OF THE SKY."



WAIT!









TAG IT, TRACK IT, AND SCRAMBLE A RETRIEVAL TEAM.

THEY'RE GOING IN FAST, AND THERE'S NO WAY THAT SHIP WILL HOLD AN ORBIT. I WANT BEST GUESSES FOR SPLASHDOWN LOCATIONS.



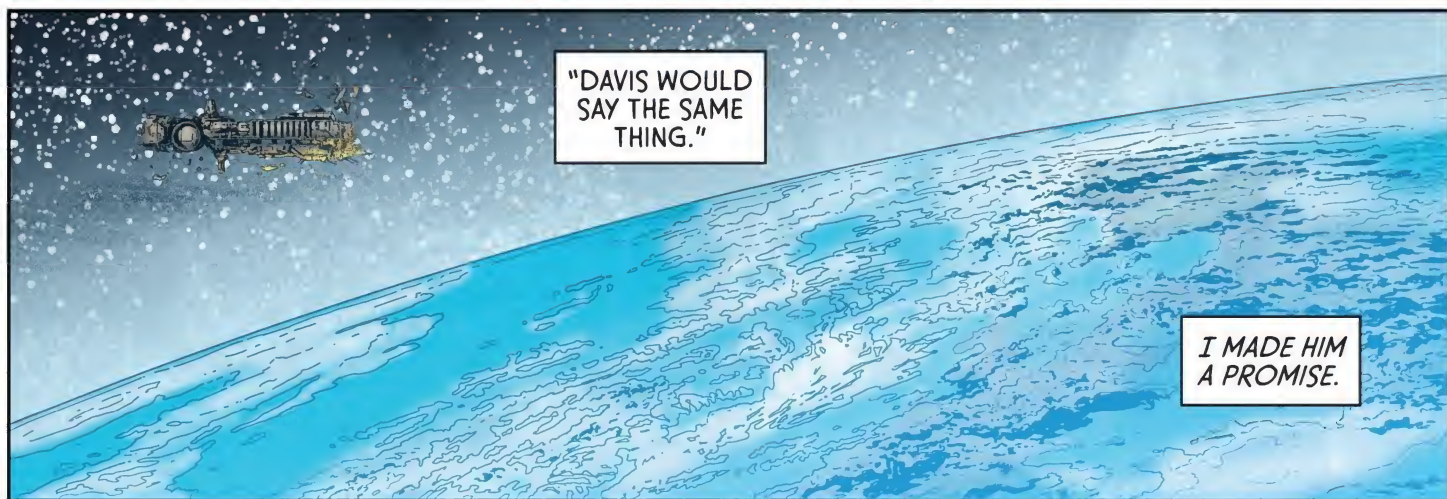
DAVIS?

DAVIS, COME IN.



DAVIS?!

ZULA, WE HAVE TO GO.



"DAVIS WOULD SAY THE SAME THING."

I MADE HIM A PROMISE.



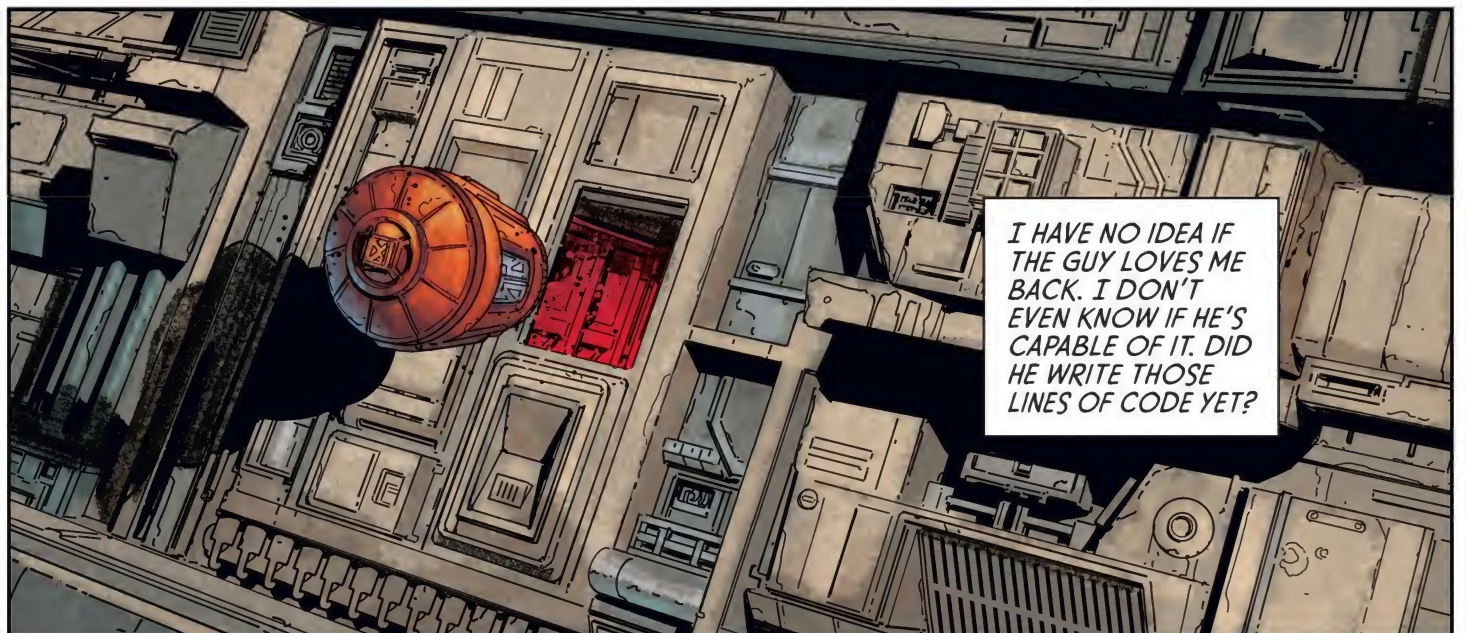
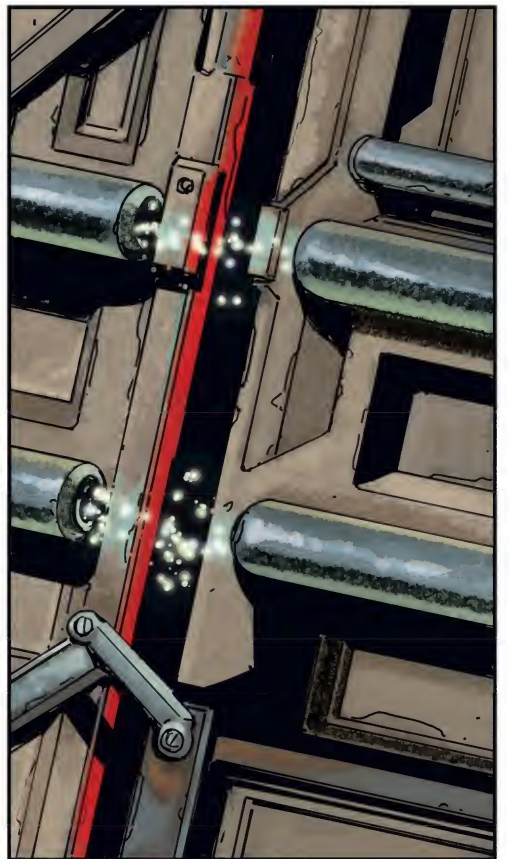
I DON'T WANT TO DIE, HE SAID.

SO I PROMISED HE WOULDN'T. I TOLD HIM I'D PROTECT HIM.

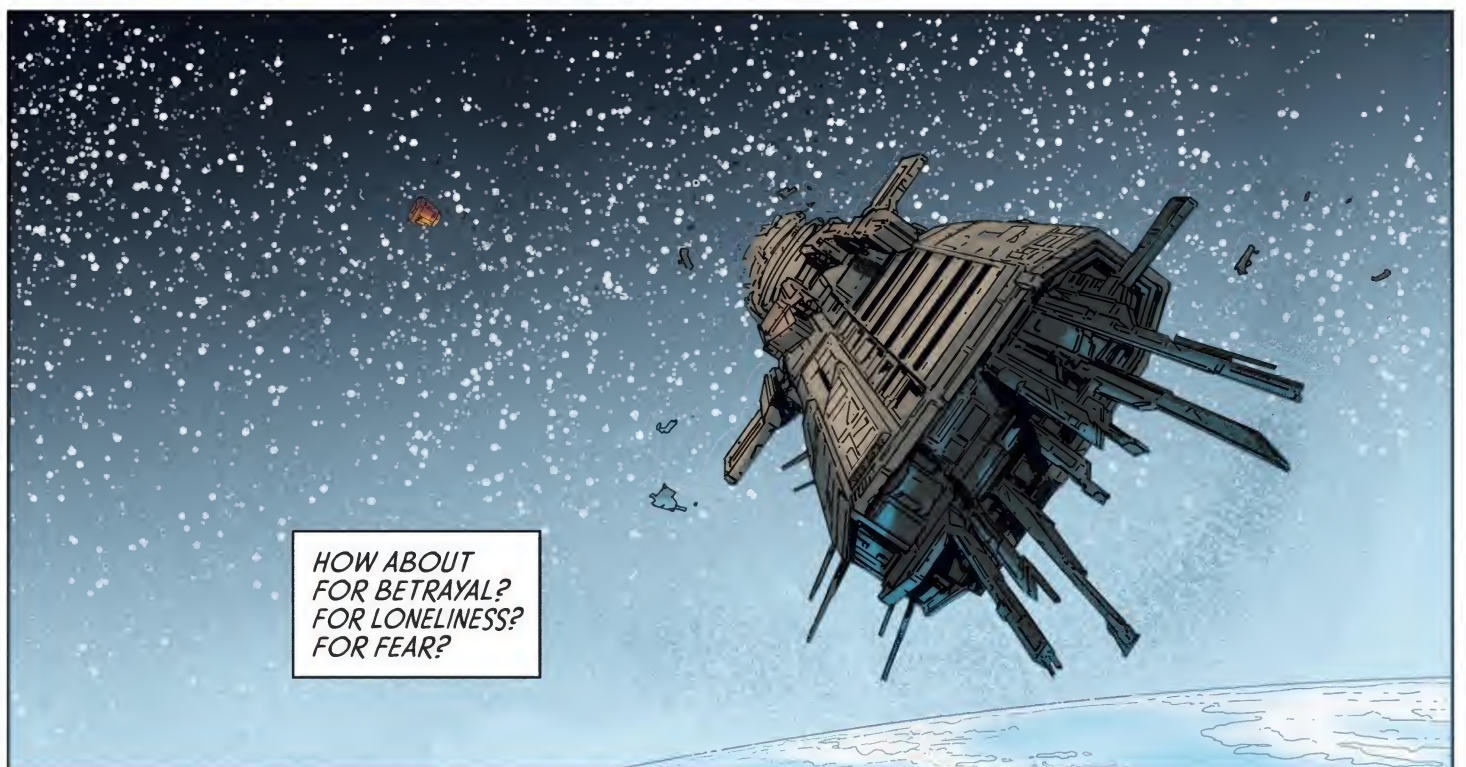




NOW I'M  
RUNNING  
AWAY.



I HAVE NO IDEA IF  
THE GUY LOVES ME  
BACK. I DON'T  
EVEN KNOW IF HE'S  
CAPABLE OF IT. DID  
HE WRITE THOSE  
LINES OF CODE YET?



HOW ABOUT  
FOR BETRAYAL?  
FOR LONELINESS?  
FOR FEAR?





WE HANG ON FOR  
DEAR LIFE, AS HOME  
RUSHES TOWARD  
US AT SEVENTEEN  
THOUSAND MILES  
AN HOUR.



THIS IS WHAT  
YOU WANTED,  
ZULA.

ASSUMING YOU SURVIVE  
REENTRY, WHAT HAPPENS  
NEXT WILL EITHER  
CONDEMN DAVIS AS A  
MALFUNCTIONING SLAB  
OF PLASTIC...



...OR A  
HERO  
WORTHY  
OF LOVE.

TO BE CONTINUED